

Buddhism and Fire Bibliography

10 May 2024

Fire in Buddhism

In Buddhism fire is discussed in three main ways:

1) Suttas in *The Pali Canon*

SN *Samyutta-Nikaya* 35.28 *Adittapariyaya Sutta* The Fire Sermon

Wikipedia

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/%C4%80dittapariy%C4%81ya_Sutta

2) The Three Fires/Poisons *akusala-mūla*

The three fires/poisons are also known as the three *akusala-mūla* unwholesome roots (*akusala-mūla*): greed (*lobha*), hate (*dosa*) and delusion (*moha*).

Wikipedia

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Three_poisons

3) The Four Elements *catudhātu*

In Buddhism, the four elements *catudhātu* are earth, water, fire and air.

In Theravada Buddhism the elements are known as *dhatu*. The Fire element is known as *tejo-dhatu*.

Venerable Nyanatiloka explains in his *Buddhist Dictionary*

dhātu: 'elements', are the ultimate constituents of a whole.

(I) The four physical elements (*dhātu* or *mahā-bhūta*), popularly called earth, water, fire and wind, are to be understood as the primary qualities of matter. They are named in Pali: *paṭhavī-dhātu*, *āpo-dhātu*, *tejo-dhātu*, and *vāyo-dhātu*. In *Visuddhi Magga* XI, 2 the four elements are defined thus: "Whatever is characterised by hardness (*thaddha-lakkhaṇa*) is the earth or solid-element; by cohesion (*ābandhana*) or fluidity, the water-element; by heating (*paripācana*), the fire or heat-element; by strengthening or supporting (*vitthambhana*), the wind or motion-element. All four are present in every material object, though in varying degrees of strength. If, for instance, the earth element predominates, the material object is called 'solid', etc. For the analysis of the four elements, see *dhātu-vavatthāna*.

Wikipedia

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mah%C4%81bh%C5%ABta>

Bibliography

Articles

Bhikkhu Bodhi, Guidelines to Sutta Study [*Adittapariyaya Sutta* The Fire Sermon], *Buddhist Publication Society Newsletter*, (Winter 1992) No. 22; (Spring 1993) No. 23; (Summer - Fall 1993) No. 24.

<https://www.bps.lk/>

<https://www.bps.lk/library.php>

https://www.bps.lk/library_newsletters.php

Audio

AUDIO SN 35.28: *Adittapariyaya Sutta* Fire Sermon

Audio Dharma.org

<http://audiodharma.org/>

<http://audiodharma.org/talks/>

Search for *The Fire Sermon* Audio talks available

Dharmaseed.org

<https://dharmaseed.org/>

<https://dharmaseed.org/talks/>

Search for *The Fire Sermon* Audio talks available

Sobhana.net

<http://sobhana.net/>

<http://sobhana.net/audio/index.htm>

<http://sobhana.net/audio/english/index.htm>

Nine audio talks by Bhikkhu Bodhi on *Adittapariyaya Sutta* The Fire Sermon

<http://sobhana.net/audio/english/bodhi/index.htm>

Suttareadings.net

<https://www.suttareadings.net/>

<https://www.suttareadings.net/audio/index.html>

<https://www.suttareadings.net/audio/index-readers.html>

SN 35.28: *Adittapariyaya Sutta* The Fire Sermon

Several months after his Awakening, the Buddha delivers this sermon to an audience of 1000 fire-worshipping ascetics. In his characteristically brilliant teaching style, the Buddha uses a metaphor that quickly penetrates to the heart of the audience - in this case, the metaphor of fire. Upon hearing this sermon, the entire audience attains full Awakening (*arahatta*).

Read by Bhante Henepola Gunaratana.

<https://www.suttareadings.net/audio/sn35.028.guna.mp3>

Books

Fire Monks: Zen Mind Meets Wildfire. Colleen Morton Busch. 2011. (New York USA Penguin Books). (ISBN 978-0-14-312137-4 (paperback) ISBN 978-1-59420-291-9).

<http://colleenmortonbusch.com/>

<http://colleenmortonbusch.com/fire-monks/>

For the Love of The World. Ajahn Amaro. 2013. (Hemel Hempstead, England Amaravati Publications). (ISBN 978-870205-73-3)

Chapter 3 All is Burning includes Guided Meditation: Fire

<https://forestsangha.org/>

<https://forestsangha.org/teachings/books>

<https://forestsangha.org/teachings/books/for-the-love-of-the-world?language=English>

Mind Like Fire Unbound: An Image in the Early Buddhist Discourses Fourth Edition 2010 by Thanissaro Bhikkhu (Geoffrey DeGraff)

<https://www.accesstoinsight.org/lib/authors/thanissaro/likefire/index.html>

Mind Like Fire Unbound: An Image in the Early Buddhist Discourses, (4th edition, 2010), by Thanissaro Bhikkhu (Geoffrey DeGraff). "Early Buddhism borrowed two of its central terms from the workings of fire. *Upadana*, or clinging, originally referred to the fuel that kept fire burning; *nibbana*, the name of the goal, to a fire's going out. This is the first book to examine these terms from the perspective of how the early Buddhists themselves viewed fire — what they saw happening as a fire burned, and what happened to the fire when it went out — to show what light this perspective throws on Buddhist doctrine in general, and the practice of meditation in particular. With extensive quotations from the Pali Canon, newly translated, this is also a useful sourcebook for anyone who wants to encounter Buddhist teachings in their earliest known context.

Thanissaro Bhikkhu: (Geoffrey DeGraff), edited by John T. Bullitt.

<https://www.accesstoinsight.org/lib/authors/thanissaro/index.html>

Buddhist Publication Society Kandy Sri Lanka

<https://www.bps.lk/>

A search for *Fire* on the BPS website lists BPS publications which include *Fire*.

<https://www.bps.lk/library.php>

Some BPS publications are available on the Access to Insight website

<https://www.accesstoinsight.org/>

<https://www.accesstoinsight.org/lib/bpslist.html>

BPS Books

http://www.bps.lk/library_books.php

The Buddha and His Teachings. Narada Mahathera, Venerable. (Electronic edition, 2012). (BP102S). (ISBN 978-955-24-0025-4)

Chapter 7 The Teaching of the Dhamma includes Adittapariyaya Sutta: The Fire Sermon

https://bps.lk/olib/bp/bp102s_Narada-Buddha_and_His_Teachings.pdf

Buddhist Dictionary: Manual of Buddhist Terms and Doctrines. Nyanatiloka, Venerable. 2004. (5th revised edition). (BP601S). (ISBN 955-24-0019-8) (Current ISBN 978-974-9511-30-5).

https://www.bps.lk/olib/bp/bp601s_Nyanatiloka_Buddhist-Dictionary.pdf

The Life of the Buddha: According to The Pali Canon: Translation from the Pali, selection of material and arrangement by Bhikkhu Nanamoli. 1992. (3rd edition). (BP101S). (ISBN 955-24-0063-52) (Current ISBN 978-955-24-0063-6).

Chapter 4 The Spreading of the Dhamma includes *Adittapariyaya Sutta*: The Fire Sermon

https://www.bps.lk/olib/bp/bp101s_Nyanamoli_Life-Of-The-Buddha.pdf

BPS Wheel Publications (ISSN 0068-3345)

https://www.bps.lk/library_wheels.php

<https://www.bps.lk/olib/wh/whindex.html>

Wheel 17 *Three Cardinal Discourses of the Buddha: Setting Rolling the Wheel of Truth (Dhamma-cakka-pavattana-sutta), The Not-self Characteristic (Anatta-lakkhana-sutta), The Fire Sermon (Aditta-pariyaya-sutta)*. Translated by Nanamoli Thera.

https://www.bps.lk/olib/wh/wh017_Nyanamoli_Three-Cardinal-Discourses-of-the-Buddha.html

https://bps.lk/olib/wh/wh017_Nyanamoli_Three-Cardinal-Discourses-of-the-Buddha.pdf

Dictionaries

Buddhist Dictionary: Manual of Buddhist Terms and Doctrines. Nyanatiloka, Venerable. 2004. 5th revised edition. (Kandy, Sri Lanka, BPS Buddhist Publication Society (ISBN 955-24-0019-8) (Current ISBN 978-974-9511-30-5).

https://www.bps.lk/olib/bp/bp601s_Nyanatiloka_Buddhist-Dictionary.pdf

The Pali Text Society's Pali-English Dictionary. Edited by T. W. Rhys Davids and William Stede (London, Luzac for the PTS Pali Text Society). (ISBN: 978-0-86013-503-6).

1921-1925 edition available online via the Pali Text Society website

<https://palitextsociety.org/product/pali-english-dictionary/>

PTS Pali Text Society

Weblink <https://palitextsociety.org/>

Updated editions are listed on the PTS website.

The Pali Text Society's Pali-English Dictionary. Edited by T. W. Rhys Davids and William Stede (London, Luzac for the PTS Pali Text Society). (ISBN: 978-0-86013-503-6).

1921-1925 edition available online via the Pali Text Society website

<https://palitextsociety.org/product/pali-english-dictionary/>

The Connected Discourses of the Buddha: A New Translation of the Samyutta Nikaya. Translated from the Pali by Bhikkhu Bodhi. 2 Volumes. 2002. (Oxford, Pali Text Society) (Volume II). (ISBN 978-0-86013-???-?).

Adittapariyaya Sutta: The Fire Sermon Volume II; Part IV The Book of the Six Sense Bases (*Salayatana-vagga*); Chapter I 35. *Salayatana-samyutta* Connected Discourses on the Six

Sense Bases; Division I. The Root Fifty; III. The All 28 (6) Burning page 1143; Notes page 1401

<https://palitextsociety.org/product/connected-discourses-of-the-buddha/>

The Book of the Kindred Sayings (Samyutta Nikaya) or Grouped Suttas Part IV (Salayatana – Vagga) Volume IV 1993 reprint of 1927. F. L. Woodward translator. (Oxford, Pali Text Society). (ISBN 0-86013-010-X) (Current edition ISBN 978-0-86013-???-?).

Adittapariyaya Sutta: The Fire Sermon Part IV *Salayatana - Vagga* containing Kindred Sayings on the 'Sixfold Sphere of Sense and Other Subjects Part 1 [Chapter XXXV] Kindred Sayings on the Sixfold Sphere of Sense, 28 (6) On Fire, pages 10-11.

<https://palitextsociety.org/product/the-book-of-the-kindred-sayings-5-volumes/>

The Book of the Kindred Sayings (Samyutta-Nikaya) or Grouped Suttas (5 volumes) (Oxford, Pali Text Society). (Current edition ISBN 978-0-86013-???-?).

<https://palitextsociety.org/product/the-book-of-the-kindred-sayings-5-volumes/>

Suttas and Translations

Suttas and translations are available on the Access to Insight, dhammatalks.org and Sutta Central websites.

Access to Insight <https://www.accesstoinight.org/>

dhammatalks.org <https://www.dhammatalks.org/> <https://www.dhammatalks.org/suttas/>

Sutta Central <https://suttacentral.net/?lang=en>

SN 35.28 *Samyutta Nikaya Adittapariyaya Sutta*: The Fire Sermon is available at:

SN 35.28 *Samyutta Nikaya Adittapariyaya Sutta* The Fire Sermon. Translated by Thanissaro Bhikkhu. <https://www.accesstoinight.org/tipitaka/sn/sn35/sn35.028.than.html>

SN 35.28 *Samyutta Nikaya Adittapariyaya Sutta* The Fire Sermon. Translated by Nanamoli Thera. <https://www.accesstoinight.org/tipitaka/sn/sn35/sn35.028.nymo.html>

SN 35.28 *Samyutta Nikaya Adittapariyaya Sutta* Aflame. Translated by Thanissaro Bhikkhu. https://www.dhammatalks.org/suttas/SN/SN35_28.html

SN 35.28 *Samyutta Nikaya Adittapariyaya Sutta* Burning. Translated by Bhikkhu Bodhi. <https://suttacentral.net/sn35.28/en/bodhi?lang=en&reference=none&highlight=false>

SN 35.28 *Samyutta Nikaya Adittapariyaya Sutta* Burning. Translated by Bhikkhu Sujato <https://suttacentral.net/sn35.28/en/sujato?lang=en&layout=plain&reference=none¬es=asterisk&highlight=false&script=latin>

Wisdom Experience

<https://wisdomexperience.org/>

The Connected Discourses of the Buddha: A New Translation of the Samyutta Nikaya. Translated from the Pali by Bhikkhu Bodhi. 2000. (Volume II) (Boston USA, Wisdom Publications). (Volume II ISBN 0-86171-189-0) (Single Volume ISBN 978-086171-331-8).

Adittapariyaya Sutta: The Fire Sermon Volume II; Part IV The Book of the Six Sense Bases (*Salayatanaavagga*); Chapter I 35. *Salyatanasamyutta* Connected Discourses on the Six Sense Bases; Division I. The Root Fifty; III. The All 28 (6) Burning page 1143; Notes page 1401

<https://wisdomexperience.org/product/connected-discourses-buddha/>